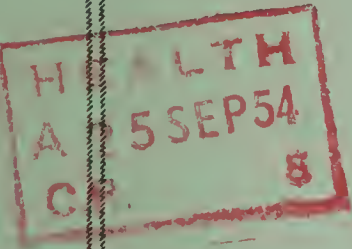


1 Mrs. Coyne D. 573
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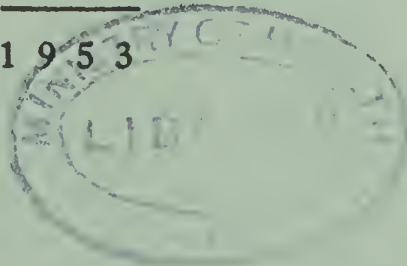
Woodbridge Urban District Council.



Annual Report OF THE Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1953



Council Offices,
17 Thoroughfare,
Woodbridge.

August 1954.

The Chairman and Councillors,
Woodbridge Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman,

Gentlemen,

I herewith present my annual report for the year 1953. This report has, as in previous years, been prepared on the lines suggested by the Ministry of Health.

It will be seen from the report that the health of the community during 1953 was on the whole good. Infectious disease notifications were lower by approximately one third than during the previous year and few cases were of a serious nature. The birth and death rates are comparable with those for other parts of the country and are satisfactory.

The population, as estimated by the Registrar-General is approximately the same as in the previous year.

I would like to thank both Councillors and Officials for their help and co-operation during the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

C.H. IMRIE,

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health

C.H.Inrie, T.D.

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,

Sanitary Inspector

G. Ogden, M.R.San.I.

A STATISTICS

1. Summary of General Statistics:

Area of District in Acres.....1097
Number of Inhabited Houses (approximately)....1898
Rateable Value of District.....£37,000.
Product of Penny Rate.....£144. 12s. 6d.

2 Summary of Vital Statistics

1943 to 1953

	<u>1943</u>	<u>1944</u>	<u>1945</u>	<u>1946</u>	<u>1947</u>	<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>
Estimated Population	4446	4533	4718	4998	5101	6450	5380	5340	5413	5448	5432
Birth Rate	17.5	20.5	17.4	19.4	17.8	13.3	18.7 (99)	19.2 (80)	15.1 (82)	15.6 (85)	16.75 (91)
Still Birth Rate	0.22	0.22	0.85	0.4	0.19	0.40	nil	0.93 (5)	nil	0.36 (2)	nil
Death Rate	14.2	17.2	14.6	10.7	13.3	13.2	14.3 (87)	11.3 (80)	12.4 (67)	11.0 (60)	11.9 (65)
Infantile Death Rate	12.8	43.0	24.4	51.5	21.9	23.2	50.4 (5)	37.5 (5)	48.7 (4)	11.7 (1)	21.9 (2)

Note.

Infantile Death Rate is the rate per 1000 live births - the other rates are per 1000 population.

Figures in brackets are the actual numbers.

Analysis of Vital Statistics

a. Live Births

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	45	41	91
Illegitimate	2	3	

Birth Rate per 1000 population 16.75

Birth Rate calculated for comparision with other areas = 21.4

Birth Rate per 1000 population England & Wales 15.5

b. Still Births

nil.

Still Birth Rate per 1000 population England & Wales 0.35

c. Deaths all Ages

	Male	Female	Total
	31	34	65

Death Rate per 1000 population 11.9

Death Rate calculated for comparision with other areas = 8.9

Death Rate per 1000 population England & Wales 11.4

d. Deaths Infantile Mortality

	Male	Female	Total
	-	2	2

Infantile Death Rate per 1000 live Births 21.9

Infantile Death Rate per 1000 live Births England & Wales 26.8

e. Comparability

To render all populations comparable with regard to age, sex and population the Registrar General issues to each Local Authority a factor which when applied to the birth and death rates make them comparable with those of other areas.



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CAUSES OF DEATH

<u>Code No.</u>	<u>Disease</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total 1953</u>	<u>Total 1952</u>
1	Tuberculosis respiratory	-	1	1	-
2	Tuberculosis other	-	-	-	-
3	Syphilitic disease	-	-	-	-
4	Diphtheria	-	-	-	-
5	Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-
6	Meningococcal infections	-	-	-	-
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-
8	Measles	-	-	-	-
9	Other infective & parasitic diseases	-	-	-	-
10	Malignant neoplasm stomach	1	-	1	1
11	Malignant neoplasm lung bronchus	-	1	1	2
12	Malignant neoplasm breast	-	2	2	2
13	Malignant neoplasm uterus	-	-	-	2
14	Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	3	1	4	7
15	Leukaemia Aleukaemia	1	-	1	-
16	Diabetes	1	-	1	1
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	8	11	19	9
18	Coronary disease angina	3	3	6	8
19	Hypertension with heart disease	-	1	1	1
20	Other heart disease	7	3	10	15
21	Other circulatory disease	3	-	3	5
22	Influenza	-	-	-	-
23	Pneumonia	-	1	1	2
24	Bronchitis	1	2	3	1
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	-	1	1	-
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-	-	1
27	Gastritis enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-	-
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	-	1	1	-
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-	-	-
30	Pregnancy childbirth abortion	-	-	-	-
31	Congenital malformations	-	-	-	-
32	Other defined & ill-defined diseases	2	5	7	3
33	Motor vehicle accidents	1	-	1	-
34	All other accidents	-	1	1	-
35	Suicide	-	-	-	-
36	Homicide & operations of war	-	-	-	-
		31	34	65	60

Causes of Death under 1 year

Prematurity - 2 Females (twins)

Comment on Statistics. The population estimate for 1953 approximates to that for the previous year. The number of Births, however, is the highest since 1949 and is well above the rate for England & Wales. The Death Rate is within the expected range for the population. It is satisfactory to record that there were no Still Births during the year and only two deaths of infants under 1 year.

Notifications Received

Infectious Disease

[illegible]

Monthly Notifications

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Jan</u>	<u>Feb</u>	<u>Mar</u>	<u>Apl</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>Jne</u>	<u>Jly</u>	<u>Aug</u>	<u>Sep</u>	<u>Oct</u>	<u>Nov</u>	<u>Dec</u>	<u>Total</u>
Scarlet Fever	1	3	2		1	4				1	1	5	18
Whooping Cough	4	5	6	4		3		1	1				24
Measles	25	7	3	4	2							1	42
Pneumonia	3	1			1							1	6
Jaundice	1											2	3
Puerperal Pyrexia										1			1
													94

Tuberculosis

	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		<u>Total</u>
	M	F	M	F	
<u>No. on Register</u> <u>1st January 1953.</u>	17	11	2	1	31
<u>No. of cases notified</u> <u>during the Year</u>	3	4		1	8
<u>No. Restored to Register</u>	-	-	-	-	-
<u>No. added otherwise than</u> <u>by Notification</u>	-	-	-	-	-
<u>No. removed from Register</u>	4	2		1	7
<u>No. remaining on Register</u> <u>at 31st December 1953.</u>	16	13	2	1	32

Details of Cases added to Register

<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Location of Disease</u>
F	23	Housewife	Lungs
M	46	General Labourer	Lungs
F	33	Housewife	Lungs
M	21	Clerk	Lungs
F	22	Typist	Lungs
F	7	School child	Wrist
F	33	Housewife	Lungs
M	64	Storeman	Lungs

Cases Removed from Register

1	-	Non-tuberculous
3	-	Recovered
2	-	Moved to another District
1	-	Died

Mass Radiography Unit.

In February 1953, the Mass Miniature Radiography Unit from Norwich paid a fortnightly visit to Woodbridge.

During the period 1972 people availed themselves of the facilities offered. The value of this form of screening of the population cannot be overestimated and it should help greatly to combat tuberculosis.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Joint Sewerage Scheme.

There was little progress to report over the question of public cleansing during 1953. The main Woodbridge & Melton Sewerage Scheme was still held up pending approval by the Minister, more recently however, sanction has been given for this long awaited and badly needed scheme to resume its much impeded course.

It is to be hoped it will come to fruition without any further impediments or avoidable delays, as the need is great.

Navern Brook.

Complaints during the year of a nuisance arising from the Navern Brook were investigated, and the Council decided that the circumstances warranted the stream being piped through the length of its course.

This work was carried out.

WATER

The Woodbridge Council Waterworks supplies Woodbridge and the adjoining parishes of Hasketon, Martlesham, and Melton and the Royal Air Force Station at Sutton Heath.

In quantity the water has always been adequate to meet the demand, while in quality it is pure and wholesome, but rather hard for some purposes.

During the year consumption of water increased by 1,174,900 gallons over the previous year to a total of 71,823 440 gallons.

The question of water softening which had been brought up in previous years was again reconsidered, but, it was decided that the necessary outlay would be out of proportion to the benefits which would derive from it.

During 1953 extensions to the water main totalled 1421 yards, while 77 new connections were made.

Work was commenced in September on the new Water Tower which is due for completion in the summer of 1954. This tower with a capacity of 150,000 gallons should provide a much needed reserve of water against emergencies, and also permit the supply to be extended whenever necessary.

Bacteriological Examination Report dated October 12th 1953.

Nature of sample - Water from Crag Wells and Chalk Bores, mixed, sample taken from Tap over sink, Waterworks House.

Report.

Plate Count. Yeastrel agar 2 days 37° C. aerobically	0	per ml.
Plate Count. Yeastrel agar 3 days at Room Temp.	1	
Probable number of coliform bacilli, MacConkey		
2 days, 37° C.	0	per 100 ml.
Probable number of faecal coli	-	per 100 ml.

Remarks.

Bacteriological findings very satisfactory.

HOUSING

Since the war and up to the end of 1953, 218 Council Houses have been built and occupied in Woodbridge, in spite of this however, the Waiting List has not altered appreciably over the past 5 years and now stands at over 200. Of course a large proportion of applicants are already living in Woodbridge and are seeking to be re-housed because of the low standard of their present accommodation or because of overcrowding. This means that well in excess of 100 extra houses will be required to supply the needs of the Town from the point of view of housing standards alone.

The shortage of labour and materials during and after the war forced upon Local Authorities a policy of making do and mending substandard houses. The result is that there are now some half dozen areas in the Town in which the majority of houses would in the normal course of events have been cleared out to make room for redevelopment, but now are well below the accepted standards for housing.

It has now been indicated by the Government that Local Authorities should give consideration to this question during 1954 with a view to deciding on their future course of action in dealing with substandard housing.

It will be necessary when reviewing any particular property to take into consideration the possibility or otherwise of connection to the future sewerage system.

Reference to the figures below suggest that overcrowding as a general problem is not a feature of Woodbridge, although isolated cases have come to light from time to time.

Figures Relating to Housing.

Number of inhabited houses in Woodbridge - approximately	1898.
Number of persons per house - average	2.7
Number of Statutory Notices issued	3

FOOD

Food Premises in District.

Bakers 7	Grocers 7
Butchers 8	Green Grocers 12
Confectioners 9	General Stores 8
Dairies 5	Pork Butchers 2
Fish Mongers 4	Hotels & Cafes 12
Fish & Chip Shops 4	

Food Inspections.

The following items were inspected and condemned during the year -

Tinned food.

122 tins Fruit & Vegetables.
 260 tins Milk & Cream.
 43 tins Meat.
 21 tins Fish.
 1 tin Cat food.
 12 tins jam.
 9 tins Baby food.
 1 tin pudding.
 14 tins Mincemeat.
 141 tins Anchovy paste.

Meat.

339 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Beef.
 186 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Pork.
 129 lbs. Bacon.
 1 lb. Ham.
 20 lbs. Veal.
 112 lbs. Sausagemeat.
 21 lbs. Sweetbread.

Fish.

84 lbs. Fish (various kinds)
 6 gallons Shrimps.

Other Food.

7 lbs. Cheese.
 1 Case Oranges.
 6 dozen packets Cheese.
 5 packets Gelatine.

FOOD POISONING.

There were no cases of food poisoning during the year.

NEW REGULATIONS.S.I.No.299. The Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1953.

Came into operation 1st April 1953. This replaces the previous Regulations, and conforms with present workings of the Health Service in regard to action in cases of Infectious Disease. They amplify, however, the precautionary measures provided for in the revoked regulations against food poisoning -

- (1) by relating these (instead of to enteric fever and dysentery, as formerly) to typhoid fever, paratyphoid fever or other salmonella infections (which includes the diseases previously known as enteric fever), dysentery and staphylococcal infection likely to cause food poisoning.
- (2) by applying these measure in general to persons shown to be carriers of these diseases as well as to persons suffering from them;
- (3) by preventing such persons (in either class) not only from continuing employment involving the handling of food, as formerly, but also from entering such employment; and
- (4) by enabling a local authority to authorise the medical officer of health to issue notices in emergency, in order to check the spread of these diseases.

S.I.No.552. The Cream and Use of Milk (Revocation) Order 1953.

Came into operation 1st April 1953, and -

- (a) revokes the Cream Order, 1951, as amended, thereby removing control over the manufacture and sale of cream;
- (b) revokes the Use of Milk (Restriction) Order 1945, and the Use of Milk (Suspension of Restriction) Order, 1951, thereby removing the prohibition on the use of milk in the manufacture of biscuits, bread, buns, pastries, cakes, rolls, scones and other similar products, ice-cream, sweet-meats (including sugar confectionery and chocolate) and synthetic cream.

S.I.No. 1407. The Salvaged Goods (Revocation) Order 1953.

Came into operation 27th September 1953, and revokes the Salvaged Goods Order, 1948, which provided for the disposal of certain salvaged foods and soap.

S.I.No.1821. The Milk (Special Designation)(Pasteurised & Sterilised Milk) (Amendment) Regulations 1953. Came into operation 20th December 1953. These amending regulations -

- (a) appoint 1st October 1954, as the date from which it shall be compulsory to use overlapping caps on containers of pasteurised milk;
- (2) allow milk to be sterilised in cans or other suitable containers as well as in bottles.

S.I.No.1876. The Milk & Dairies (Amendment) Regulations 1953.

Came into operation 27th December 1953. These amending regulations exclude from the registration requirements of the principal regulations persons who sell cream in the hermetically sealed containers in which it is delivered to the premises and who are not otherwise distributors of milk.

Action under Various Acts & Regulations

1953

1. Factories Act 1937

	On Register	Inspection	Defects Remedied	
Factories not employing power	6	1	-	-
Factories employing power	33	7	-	-
	39	8	-	-

Outworkers - nil on Register.

11. National Assistance Act 1948

No statutory action under Section 47 was considered necessary during the year.

